

# COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

These protocols will continue in effect through May 1, 2020. However, if the Governor, Legislature, or the Supreme Court issue an order requiring an extension of existing shelter at home requirements, these protocols will continue until such an extension terminates.

## **Courtroom Proceedings**

The Court will not conduct in-court, personal proceedings. Any proceedings must be conducted via electronic means, including Zoom video and/or audio conferences, and similar means, as is necessary.

## **Civil Status Conferences / Pre-trials / Early Scheduling Conferences**

Status Conferences will be conducted via electronic means, including Zoom video and/or audio conferences or via e-mail.

## **Criminal Call**

The Court intends to conduct pre-trials and sentencings. The Court may also conduct arraignments with in-custody defendants. Videoconferencing of in-custody defendants will continue from the jail. Counsel will participate by Zoom video and/or audio conferences, and similar means, as is necessary. If confidential matters need to be discussed as these matters occur, the Court will terminate the hearing and allow counsel and defendants to confer in confidence outside of the Zoom platform by either passing the case or setting the matter for another date. *Defendants must agree to this procedure, otherwise these matters will be adjourned.*

## **Motions**

Scheduling of Summary Disposition Motions. All motions for summary disposition will continue to follow the normal protocol (i.e., Chambers will issue a specific scheduling order for briefing and hearing after the motion has filed and accepted via the Court's e-file system).

Scheduling of Appeals. Hearings on general civil and criminal appeals will continue to follow the normal protocol (i.e., to be briefed and heard pursuant to the respective Michigan Rules of Court, unless otherwise stipulated).

Motions to Adjourn. The Court has already issued or will be issuing amended scheduling orders addressing cases in which (1) case evaluation was adjourned because of the shelter at home orders or (2) the trial date was during the shelter at home period. The Court WILL consider reasonable proposed stipulated orders to adjourn.

Scheduling of All Other Motions. Judge Chabot is accepting praecipes to set motions for hearing. Judge Chabot will continue practice of dispensing with oral argument on many motions. For motions necessitating oral argument, Judge Chabot may hear such via Zoom video and/or audio conferences, and similar means, as is necessary. For emergency motions, please email [garrisons@oakgov.com](mailto:garrisons@oakgov.com).

Any questions should be directed to **Judge Chabot's chambers by calling 248-858-0335**, or via email to: [garrisons@oakgov.com](mailto:garrisons@oakgov.com), or [vanderworpm@oakgov.com](mailto:vanderworpm@oakgov.com).